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INTERNATIONAL BUREAU OF AMERICAN REPUBLICS

JOHN BARRETT, DIRECTOR

FRANCISCO J. YÁNES, SECRETARY

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# MUNICIPAL ORGANIZATIONS IN LATIN AMERICA

# RIO DE JANEIRO, BRAZIL

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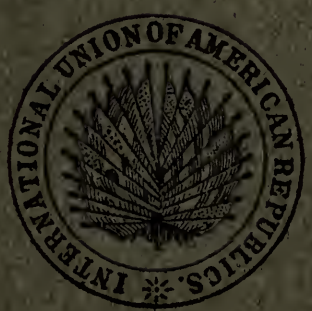
(Reprint of an article from the Monthly Bulletin of the International Bureau of American Republics, January, 1909)




WASHINGTON, D. C.
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1909

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# MUNICIPAL ORGANIZATION IN THE LATIN-AMERICAN CAPITALS

## RIO DE JANEIRO.

IN natural beauty few cities of the world can compare favorably with Rio. It is Naples and Stamboul, as seen from the sea, with hundreds of the choicest bits of the Morea and the islands of the Ægean and the grandeur of the Norwegian fjords rolled into one.

Fifteen years ago it might have been said with truth that in this nature's chef d'œuvre the handiwork of man appeared to no great advantage. Rio, in area one of the largest cities of the world, was a more or less disjointed group of small villages thrust in here and there between the mountains on the west of the great bay. It appeared broken and disconnected, a congeries of settlements, stretching around the sweep of the more or less inaccessible shore, with incursions here and there between the hills or up their slopes. On a nearer view the impression was more favorable. There were even then many beautiful buildings and parks. There were even places where one might say: "Here man has wrought worthy of his surroundings." But as a whole the city was disappointing. Perhaps most of all because it lacked unity and because nature pressed too heavily upon the observer and demanded too much.

All of this is changing, and most of it is already changed. Fifteen years has worked a marvel in the city, as great as a tale from the "Thousand and One Nights." Rio de Janeiro has been made over. It has been joined together. It is unrecognizable, but it is becoming beautiful. No such work in a city has ever been done before, except perhaps when Haussmann cleft Paris through and through into a half dozen great avenues, or when Peter built his capital on the Neva.

Many projects for the rebuilding or improvement of Brazil's capital were conceived prior to 1893, but the plan which finally took shape followed the installation of President Rodrigues Alves in 1892. He appointed as secretary of public works Senator Lauro Müller, an engineer, and earnest advocate of the rebuilding plan. It was decided to begin the work, and for this purpose two loans were contracted, one a foreign loan of $40,000,000, the other a domestic loan by the municipality of $20,000,000. With these funds the work was begun in virtue of the decree of September 18, 1903.



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AVENIDA CENTRAL, RIO DE JANEIRO, BRAZIL.

The construction of this avenue was commenced November 15, 1905, and completed in twenty-two months, at a cost of about $11,500,000. The sidewalks are 23 feet wide and the roadway 62 feet. In the center of the street is a row of 55 electric clusters, each with three lamps, placed alternately with 53 Pao Brazil trees, planted in beds 15 feet long by 6 feet wide.

In brief the plan was:

First, the construction of a quay following in general the shore line 3,500 meters long (2⅛ miles);

Second, the construction of a large avenue parallel with the quay and of the same length;

Third, the rectification and prolongation to the sea of the canal known as Mangue, with an avenue on either side nearly 2 miles (3,000 meters) in length and 131 feet in breadth, lit by electricity;

Fourth, elevation of the railroad bed and construction of an avenue following the line of Francisco Eugenio street up to the Quinta do Boa Vista, the residence of the late Emperor Dom Pedro;

Fifth, enlargement of the city water supply taking in all the near-by sources;

THE WATER FRONT, RIO DE JANEIRO.

Showing a portion of the Avenida Beira-Mar, a 6-mile boulevard skirting the bay. It is not an exaggeration to say that this avenue is unsurpassed in picturesque beauty and variety by any driveway of equal length in the world. On the occasion of the visit of ex-President General Julio Roca, of Argentina, in 1907, it was gorgeously illuminated throughout its entire length, as a feature in the scheme of entertainment in honor of that distinguished guest.

Sixth, revision of sewerage system;

Seventh, construction of an avenue, 1⅛ miles (1,996 meters) in length and 108 feet (33 meters) broad. This is the Avenida Central;

Eighth, cutting down certain hills in the city;

Ninth, widening the streets crossing the Avenida Central.

These plans were almost immediately enlarged through the suggestion of the incoming mayor of the city, Dr. Francisco Passos, who was selected by President Rodrigues Alves as an aid to Doctor Müller. The new improvements contemplated the widening of many other streets, the construction of a bay-side drive, 4½ miles long and 115 feet wide (7,000 meters and 35 meters), repaving the streets with asphalt, and other works for embellishing the city.

The improvement of the shore line was a work of the greatest magnitude. It involved the building of a stone quay over 2 miles in length along the east front of the city. The quay is built in many places at a considerable distance out from the old shore and incloses several islands and small bays. In front the harbor is dredged to a depth of 10 meters (32.8 feet) to a distance out, and following the line of the quay for 250 meters (820 feet). This forms a broad ship channel along the face of the quay. Back from the quay the land has been filled in to a depth of from 12 to 40 feet and an avenue 100 meters in width (328 feet) has been constructed following the line of the new shore.

This avenue is apportioned in three strips—a paved thoroughfare of 40 meters (131 feet) lined with rows of trees, then a strip of 35 meters for business houses and offices, then 25 meters for railway tracks. The whole quay is finished with the most modern hoisting, loading and unloading machinery and devices, and there are two electric plants for furnishing power and light.

Under the contract of September, 1903, the quay work which was begun in March, 1904, must be completed by July 1, 1910.

More striking perhaps than even the quay works has been the construction of the great Avenida Central, running in a straight line from sea to sea and serving as the principal outlet from the congested business section. The avenue is 1,996 meters long (6,500 feet) and 33 meters wide (108 feet). Over 600 buildings were demolished in preparing the way, 3,000 laborers working night and day. Trees are planted along each side and in the center. There are also flower beds in the center.

Some of the most beautiful and imposing buildings in Rio have been erected on the Avenida Central.

Another great avenue opened is the Avenida Beira Mar, the bay-side avenue. This is nearly $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles in length (7,000 meters). It begins where the western end of the Avenida Central meets the bay and, following the curves of the city front, stretches away to Botafogo Bay, a beautiful cove inclosed in a green frame of high hills. The work on the Mangue Canal and the building of the two bordering avenues, each 131 feet wide, is progressing rapidly. When completed the canal will be nearly 2 miles in length, stone faced, and crossed by numerous artistic bridges.

A marked feature in the building of the new streets in Rio de Janeiro has been the use of the rounded corner, the building line being marked on a curve of considerable radius. This adds a beauty and dignity to the architecture of the buildings and a grace to the appearance of the streets, in particular as seen on the Avenida Central, that is lacking in the cities of the United States.

In addition to the new avenues a number of streets in Rio de Janeiro have been improved so as to be almost unrecognizable to one

AVENIDA CENTRAL—BUILDING OF THE JORNAL DO COMMERCIO, RIO DE JANEIRO.

Many large and handsome office buildings are eloquent in attesting the general business prosperity, notably that of the Jornal do Commercio, which appears under construction in the illustration. The building has since been completed. This daily was established in 1824, under the name of the "Spectator," but in 1827 the name was changed to its present title. The Jornal do Commercio is the leading newspaper of Brazil. The greatest statesmen and politicians of the Empire and Republic have been, at different times, among its contributors.

who may have known the city a dozen or more years ago. Among these is the Uruguayana, 17 meters wide; the Assemblea, the same

width, giving a fine view of the bay; Carioca street, Visconde do Rio Branco, Floriano, 24 meters wide; Trezede Maio, Passos Avenida and Inhauma, 30 meters wide. These are all fine streets, with many handsome buildings and paved with asphalt.

Among the new buildings are the Monroe Palace, covering 12,000 square meters, one of the finest buildings on the continent; the new Municipal Theater, marble front, bronze decorated, with a fine dome; the (São Paulo and Rio Grande) Railway Building, gothic, appearing like a great middle-age castle; the Botanical Garden Railway Company Building; the Naval Club, new classic style; the Treasury Building, with its beautiful white and rose marble columns;

NEW BUILDINGS ON AVENIDA CENTRAL, RIO DE JANEIRO.

These structures are distinguished by their various styles of architecture. They are all new and thoroughly modern, averaging about 60 feet in height, although many of them are 125, 160, and 190 feet high.

the Jornal do Commercio Building, the Exhibition Palace, National Library, marble and steel, and numbers of others.

Many cities of the world have beautiful streets and beautiful buildings, but Rio alone has the Jardim Botanico. It is the central point of interest for tourists. What Vesuvius is to Naples, the Grand Canal to Venice, or the Golden Horn to Constantinople, is the Botanical Garden to Rio de Janeiro. Here is displayed all the luxurient wealth of tropical flora in its most attractive aspect. Its magnificent avenue, a half mile in length, of royal palms, is worth a trip to Rio to see. Admission to the garden is free, and a line of trolley cars pass the main entrance.

The city of Rio de Janeiro and its environs constitute the Federal District of the United States of Brazil. The municipal organization of the district is controlled by the National Government, but the right of the 900,000 inhabitants to a voice in the management of local affairs is safeguarded in two ways:

(1) The district is represented in the Congress of Brazil by 3 senators elected for nine years and by 10 deputies elected for three years.

(2) A city council of 10 intendentes or members, elected by direct suffrage for a term of two years. The council meets in ordinary session twice a year.

A BAMBOO GROVE, BOTANICAL GARDEN, RIO DE JANEIRO.

The spacious grounds cover an area of nearly 2,000 acres situated on the border of the large suburban lake, Rodrigo Freitas, which is near the seacoast and separated therefrom by only a narrow strip of sand. Trolley cars from Rio pass the main entrance. This world-famed institution is supported by the general government for the purpose of botanical research and climatical experiments. Its natural beauty is further enhanced by the tropical luxuriance of Brazilian forests, the choicest specimens of native flora preserved in all their artistic settings, and many trees and rare plants from foreign lands.

The chief executive of Rio de Janeiro City is the prefect, who holds office for four years and is appointed by the President of the Republic and confirmed by the senate. Under him there are seven boards or directorias, as follows: Public estates board, public works and transit, board of health and public assistance, the council of education, the board of forests, gardens, game and fishing, the board of finance, and the board of police, archives and statistics. There are 3,080 municipal employees, with salaries amounting to annually

$3,203,200 United States gold, an average of $1,040 each. The revenue of the federal capital was in 1906 48,437,185 milreis, or $16,177,260, while the expenditures were 48,132,715 milreis, or $16,075,575, leaving a surplus of $101,685. The funded debt, inclusive

PALACE OF THE MINISTRY OF PUBLIC WORKS, RIO DE JANEIRO.

The department of public works is closely identified with the recently undertaken improvements to the city and harbor. Rio de Janeiro, being the federal capital, is under the jurisdiction of the government authorities, and public improvements are carried on under the direct supervision of this department.

of the floating debt on June 30, 1907, amounted to £7,000,677 sterling, or $35,003,385 United States gold. The floating debt is £1,742,076, or $8,710,380.

The sources of revenue, in 1906, were:

| | |
|---|---|
| From state property, rents, leases and dividends | $161,405 |
| Public services | 1,523,020 |
| From taxation: | |
| Merchandise exported | 121,505 |
| Trades, professions, and companies | 1,891,150 |
| Real estate (house tax) | 3,742,975 |
| Total from taxation | 5,755,630 |
| Heterogeneous and eventual | 995,785 |
| Total ordinary | 8,445,840 |
| Extraordinary, loans | 7,681,175 |
| Grand total | 16,127,015 |

The expenditures for the same year were:

| | |
|---|---|
| Executive, prefect, etc | $29,830 |
| Legislature, deputies | 143,995 |
| Hygiene and public assistance | 309,545 |
| Education, schools, colleges, and universities | 1,427,745 |
| Libraries, museums; etc | 16,705 |
| Total for education | 1,444,450 |
| Collection and distribution of revenue | 626,985 |
| Administration and other public services | 2,329,180 |
| Public works | 6,418,440 |
| Pensions | 266,975 |
| Eventual and heterogeneous | 195,425 |
| Service of the debt: | |
| Foreign funded, amortization and interest | 59,620 |
| Internal funded, amortization and interest | 3,968,015 |
| Floating debt, amortization and interest | 251,965 |
| Total service of the debt | 4,279,600 |
| Grand total | 16,044,435 |

The public debt of the federal capital, in 1902, amounted to $878,395 United States gold; in 1903, to $793,200; in 1904, to $1,170,885; in 1905, to $1,730,300; in 1906, to $2,699,245; and in 1907, to $2,790,610, showing an increase in six years of 31.5 per cent.

Protection to life and property is adequately assured in the Federal District through a highly organized and efficient police force of more than 4,000 men and a civil guard of 600, which latter force is divided into two classes, the first having 400 men and the second 200. One hundred of the civil guards are held as a reserve. Besides the ordinary police, there is stationed in the federal capital a military establishment of one brigade each of the artillery and cavalry and seven brigades of the infantry of the Brazilian national army. Rio de Janeiro is divided, for police and civil administration purposes, into 20 urban and 8 suburban wards, each of which has its local prefect and other administrative agents.

The entire police department is under the supreme supervision of a general staff, consisting of a commandant-general, an assistant of the ministry of justice, an assistant of material, an assistant of the personnel, a secretary, and an adjutant of orders. The department is divided into the following sections:

1. Passports, licenses, and correspondence.
2. Criminal section.
3. Statistics.
4. Accountantship and exchequer.

ASSEMBLEA STREET, RIO DE JANEIRO, BRAZIL.

One of the principal streets of the business section. This street is 56 feet wide, paved with asphalt, and lined with fine buildings and has a charming perspective upon the bay. Carioca and Vizconde do Rio Branco streets extend almost in a straight line from the end of Assemblea street, the three highways forming a continuous thoroughfare over a mile long.

5. Medical service, with 1 director and 12 physicians.

6. Sanitary service, having 1 inspector, 1 fiscal, 10 physicians, 4 chemists, 1 assistant chemist, 1 surgical dentist, 1 oculist, and 7 temporary practitioners.

7. Archives.

8. Detention of prisoners.

9. Cabinet of identification and statistics, which has the subdivisions of identification, statistics, information, and photography.

10. Treasury.

11. Harbor police.

INSPECTION OF FIREMEN, RIO DE JANEIRO.

The fire-fighting force consists of 600 officers and men, organized on a military basis. The corps and equipment are so efficient and modern, and the service so well arranged, that only twenty seconds are required to get the engines out of the fire halls. All repair work is done by the firemen in the shops which adjoin the central station.

12. Inspectorship of the corps of investigation and public safety.

13. Inspectorship of vehicles (composed of 1 inspector, 2 accountants, and 60 assistants).

Each administrative district of the Federal Capital has a "delegate," representing the commandant-general of police, besides an official of justice, an accountant, generally, and several "commissioners," varying in number according to the importance of the district. The entire police force of Rio de Janeiro City is organized on a strictly military basis, and has one regiment of cavalry and two regiments of infantry.

The house of detention of the federal capital is under one administrator, assisted by a physician.

The house of correction is administered by one director, aided by one assistant director.

Rio de Janeiro in latitude 22°, 54′ S., and longitude W. from Greenwich 43°, 10′, is about as far south of the equator as Havana, Cuba, is north. Its climate must generally be regarded as warmer than that of Havana, except on the summits of the surrounding mountains. There is a dry season from May to November, and a wet season from November to May. The mean annual temperature is 75°, the maximum 80°, in February, and the minimum 70°, in July.

TREASURY BUILDING, RIO DE JANEIRO, BRAZIL.

The Caixa de Amortização, or Treasury Building, of the federal capital, fronts on the new Avenida Central, and commands especial attention because of its imposing proportions and attractive style of architecture. It is solidly and artistically constructed of stone.

Climatic conditions are modified by the southwest and southeast trade winds from the Atlantic. Sudden changes of twenty degrees, in the course of a day, are not infrequent. Health conditions are excellent. A comparison of the annual death rate of Rio de Janeiro, in 1905, with that of the leading cities of the world shows that the Brazilian federal capital, with a mortality per thousand of 21.7, is about on a par with Havana, 21.2; Genoa, 21.5; Dublin, 21.2; Milan, 21.1; and Marseilles, 21.4. The record for 1907, according to figures furnished by the board of health of Rio de Janeiro, proves that there was a marked decrease in the mortality of that city, notwithstanding

a considerable growth in population. The mortality for 1906 and 1907 was 13,960 and 12,106, respectively. This diminution is largely

CENTRAL STATION OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT, RIO DE JANEIRO.

This most important institution for the protection of public and private property embraces a central station and six substations, one of which is located on the shore of the bay, and in addition to the usual equipment, is provided with two large fireboats for the protection of the harbor shipping. The central station is a handsome modern building, in which are maintained manufacturing and repair shops for the use of the department.

due to the admirable system of having in each urban and suburban district a branch of the central health department, where free medi-

cal assistance and advice are given to the poor, and whenever necessary skilled physicians and nurses visit them in their homes. The capital is, moreover, now exempt from yellow fever, a result which has been achieved by the distinguished Brazilian physician, Doctor Cruz, whose energetic efforts have exterminated that former scourge of Rio de Janeiro.

The local census, taken September 20, 1906, showed that the federal district had on that date 811,443 inhabitants, 463,453 males and 347,990 females, living. The population has increased since 1890 by 288,792 souls—that is, by 55.26 per cent. The annual increase was 3.515 per cent. Rio de Janeiro thus compares very favorably with

RUA DA CARIOCA, RIO DE JANEIRO, BRAZIL.

This typical business street of the metropolis of the Republic is important in retail trade.

Chicago, Pittsburg, Buffalo, and Cleveland. The annual birth rate in 1906 was 209.5 per 1,000. The area of the federal district is 538 square miles, and had, in 1906, a density of 1,338 inhabitants per square mile. Its area is nearly one and one-half times larger than that of New York, approximately twice as large as that of Chicago, virtually three and one-half times as much as that of Philadelphia, almost four times as large as that of London, and nearly eight times larger than that of the District of Columbia.

Although education has not as yet been made compulsory in Brazil, both the National Government as well as the municipality are promoting in every possible way universal instruction and self-improve-

ment among the inhabitants of the federal capital. Public as well as private instruction is conducted under the supervision of a "General directory of public instruction," and a "Superior counsel of instruction." The former organization is under a director-general.

Public instruction is divided into primary, corresponding to the primary and grammar grades of the United States, superior (high school and academic), and university. Under the first-named department it is interesting to note that there were 186 "primary public schools" in Rio de Janeiro City in 1907, of which 134 were for girls, 49 for boys, and 3 mixed. Seventy-two teachers, and 200 assistant teachers were employed in the primary department. The instruction

GONÇALVES DIAS SCHOOL, RIO DE JANEIRO.

This handsome school edifice in Rio is surrounded by a beautiful garden filled with tropical plants and trees. It faces Christovão Park, and is one of the most solidly constructed school buildings of the capital.

given was purely secular and comprised reading, writing, arithmetic, Portuguese grammar, geography, history, and general moral, scientific, and civic principles, drawing, calisthenics, and sewing, divided into three courses, elementary, intermediate, and higher. The primary schools are supplemented by what are known as "elementary schools," which are private institutions. They receive a subvention from the municipality on condition that they shall adopt the official programme and admit a certain number of children free. There are at present 79 schools of this sort, with 5,136 pupils and an average attendance of 2,370. The teachers are either normal-school graduates or have passed a special government examination.

Among the public institutions for superior instruction, should be mentioned the Instituto Professional for Males, which is limited to 300 pupils. Students enter at the age of 12 and leave at 20. The subjects taught are: Primary courses, music and drawing, carpentry, cabinetmaking, sculpture, typesetting, bookbinding, tailoring, iron and tinsmith's work, and bootmaking. In the Female Instituto the number of pupils is limited to 120 and applicants are admitted up to 15 years of age. Instruction is given in the primary courses, elements of hygiene, shorthand, typewriting, domestic economy, drawing, music, sewing, embroidery, and artificial-flower making.

The federal capital maintains five "model schools" in which certificated teachers, intending to become professors, are trained as assistants. The normal school, or "pedagogium," has a curriculum of four series: (1) Portuguese, French, arithmetic, geography, music, manual training, needlework, handwriting, and calisthenics; (2) Portuguese, French, algebra, geometry, geography, history, linear drawing, music, and needlework; (3) Portuguese, French, American history, physics, pedagogy, manual training, and ornamental designing; (4) Brazilian literature, chemistry, history of Brazil, and civic instruction, pedagogy, hygiene, and drawing from the model. The school is under the direct superintendence of the council of education. From 1900 to 1904, 320 students received certificates as normal teachers. All such certificated teachers must practice under certificated professors for one year and obtain certificates of competence as professors. The pedagogium is also intended to serve as a school for higher education of primary professors. Classes are held at night and comprise "permanent courses" of physical and natural sciences, "contracted courses" on letters, biology, and pedagogy, and "free courses" on mathematics, philology, sociology, technical industries, arts, etc. In 1902 seven courses were given; the number of students was 153. In 1903 ten courses, with 143 students, were given, and in 1904, 17 courses with 194 students.

There is in Rio de Janeiro city no university, properly so called, but there are in Brazil six faculties which confer degrees, of which two—the Faculty of Medicine and the Polytechnic School—are located in the capital. The cost of university education is provided—by an annual grant that for the last ten years has ranged from 2,600,000 milreis to 3,400,000 milreis ($866,667 to $1,133,334 United States gold).

The Polytechnic School was founded December 4, 1810. It grants certificates of civil, mining, industrial, and mechanical engineer, and the title of agronomist and geographical engineer. This school ranks in every respect among the best of technical institutions in the world and offers six distinct courses, namely, a "funda-

mental course" (three years), a course of civil engineering (two years), a course of mining engineering (two years), a course of industrial engineering (two years), a course of mechanical engineering

COMMERCIAL AND OFFICE BUILDINGS, AVENIDA CENTRAL, RIO DE JANERIO.

This famous avenue was laid out and many of the old buildings demolished and reconstructed within a remarkably short period of time, presenting an example of activity and progress in city building unequaled in the world. Some of the edifices cover an entire square and represent an expenditure of sums from half a million to five millions of dollars.

(two years), and a course of agricultural engineering (two years). There are 52 professors among the faculty of the school.

The total number of professors at the different municipal schools of the federal district is 875, as follows: There are 6 directors of model schools, 193 head masters, 300 permanent professors, 7 of the elementary first class, and 72 of the elementary second class; total, 778. The normal school (Pedagogium) has 45 professors and assistants. Technical education has 52 professors.

Private initiative and philanthropy (both on the part of the native Brazilians, as well as of the foreign residents) have ably cooperated with the public authorities in increasing the opportunities for universal education by establishing and maintaining throughout the federal capital a great variety of primary schools, academies, colleges, and other institutions of instruction, which are of the highest excellence.

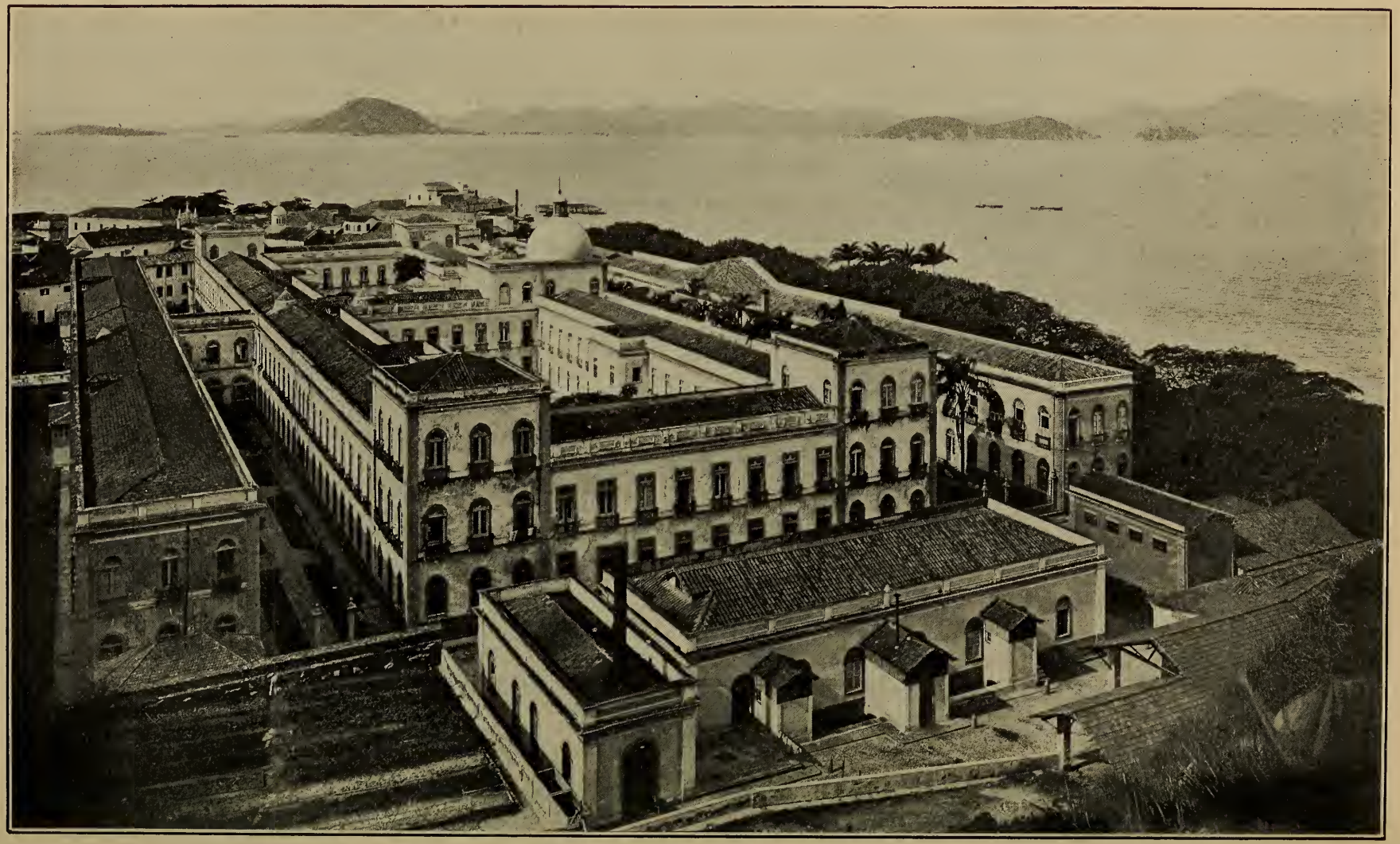
The National Government of Brazil maintains in the federal capital the following educational institutions: Deaf and dumb and blind asylums, the National School of Music, the National School of Art, the Military Academy, the Preparatory School of Tactics, and the Naval School.

The National School of Art was founded in 1816. A fine new building is now in course of erection in the Central avenue. The National School of Music was founded in 1847. The staff consists of 19 professors and 13 assistants. The Military College was founded in 1889. Children and grandchildren of army officers and of privates killed in action are educated at public expense; civilians are admitted on payment. From this college students pass to the higher military or naval school, but it is not obligatory.

The School for the Blind, called the "Instituto Benjamin Constant," was founded in 1857. The land on which the building stands covers 9,516 square meters, or 102,373 square feet, on the shores of the beautiful bay of Botafogo, and was a gift from the Emperor Dom Pedro II. The Deaf and Dumb School was founded in 1856. There are about 600 children who receive oral instruction in this institution.

The city of Rio de Janeiro is well provided with libraries, of which there are 12. Two of these, the National and the Municipal, and the rest belong to associations or to the Brazilian army and navy. The National Library Building, now in course of construction, will be the most magnificent in South America. The origin of this library was due to the flight of King João VI, of Portugal, to Brazil, in 1807. It contained, in 1907, 130,000 volumes, a valuable collection of 25,150 medals, many of them very rare, and 100,000 engravings. The average monthly attendance of readers is 3,300.

The "*Gabinete Portuguez de Leitura*" is the most beautiful building in Rio de Janeiro. The library comprises 7,000 volumes, ad-



THE HOSPITAL DA MISERICORDIA, RIO DE JANEIRO, FOUNDED IN THE SIXTEENTH CENTURY.

mirably arranged. The collection of camoenana (Camões) is believed to be the most perfect in existence.

The hospitals and asylums of the Federal District are undertaken chiefly by private associations assisted by the Government. Among the most important of these institutions are the following: Maternidade, or lying-in hospital, which is a private association assisted by the National Government. The Institute for the Protection and Assistance of Children. The society, besides giving medical advice and aid to poor children, is of inestimable benefit to women who are about to become mothers.

The Hospital da Misericordia, of Spanish origin, was founded by the Jesuit priest Father Anchieta in the sixteenth century. Its modern reorganization was in 1840. Thirty years were required to complete the edifice. It can take care of 1,200 patients, and is designed especially for the accommodation of sick sailors of all nations. The hospital is divided into four departments: The Asylum of Misericordia for Abandoned Girls; the Asylum of Santa Maria for Old Women; the Hospital of Nossa Senhora dos Dolores at Casadura, for Consumption, and the Pasteur Institute for the Treatment of Hydrophobia.

The Casa de São José for male orphan or neglected children of 6 to 12 years of age is accomplishing excellent work. There is a similar asylum for female children. Both institutions are maintained by the municipality. The Fifteenth of November Reformatory for Vagrant Children is an institution of the National Government, and is under the supervision of the police. The Gonçalves Araujo Asylum is conducted and supported by the Candelaria Brotherhood.

Among the most interesting of other philanthropical associations are the 181 registered "friendly societies," whose accumulated funds in 1902 amounted to $3,550,235, and they had an aggregate income of $391,515. They distributed, in 1902, $30,915 among associates, and since the founding of the earliest of these associations, a Swiss society, in 1821, have distributed $3,398,635. The 181 societies, in 1902, had a total of 93,851 associates.

The government of the Federal District maintains a strict supervision over factories and stores. Under the present law the majority of shops close at 8 o'clock on ordinary nights and at 4 on holidays. Only cafes, bars, and restaurants are open all day on Sundays, and grocers and tobacconists up to 12 (noon). Other places of business are required to be closed.

Lighting, rapid transit, and motive power are exclusively furnished in the Federal District by the Rio de Janeiro Tramway, Light and Power Company, operating under a concession from the municipality, and registered in Toronto, Canada. The company possesses a tre-

mendous natural source of power on the River Das Lages, 51 miles distant from the city of Rio de Janeiro. It has installed at this point one of the most extensive and modern hydraulic-electric generating systems in the world. The company is the owner of the share capital of the Companhias São Christovão, Carris Urbanos and Villa Isabel, which provides about three-fourths of the tramway service of Rio de Janeiro. The various concessions granted by the federal capital were consolidated and extended until 1970, by virtue of a contract made with the municipality, in November, 1907, the Rio de Janeiro Tramway, Light and Power Company to install electric lighting and power

THE PALACE OF THE PRESIDENT, RIO DE JANEIRO, BRAZIL.

throughout the capital within a period of about three years, and to construct about 200 miles of new lines. The lines of the Villa Isabel are already electrified, and the work of transforming the traction of the other companies is commenced.

The Societe Anonyme de Gaz de Rio de Janeiro, a Belgian enterprise, was acquired by the company, which now controls the whole of the illumination of the capital by gas and electricity, through a concession granted by the Government in 1905 with a monopoly until 1915. All parts of the city are now illuminated by gas, the electric lighting being confined for the present to the new avenues recently opened and the central commercial section. Electric light-

ing is to be greatly extended during the present year. The Rio de Janeiro Tramway, Light and Power Company (by a concession from the municipality) enjoys a monopoly for the distribution of electric power, produced in a hydraulic installation until 1915, and thereafter the right continues without monopoly until 1990. There is now furnished 3,000 horsepower, but this will soon be greatly increased. Concessions recently acquired by the company give it full control of the telephones throughout the Federal District. The entire system has been largely reconstructed with a new building, having a new central telephone board of the most modern design. Improved instruments have been given to the 2,500 subscribers, whose number will soon be increased to 5,000. Street circuits have been rebuilt and a large amount of aerial cables has been installed to take the place of the network of overhead wires in the streets, thus greatly improving the service. A large part of the system is in underground cables, and it is expected that this will be extended from year to year until all overhead wires in the populous districts have been removed.

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